

**MINUTES OF THE
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES INTERIM COMMITTEE**
Wednesday, November 15, 2000 – 2:00 p.m. – Room 405 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Robert F. Montgomery, Senate Chair
Sen. D. Edgar Allen
Sen. Peter C. Knudson
Sen. Steven L. Poulton
Rep. Trisha S. Beck
Rep. Jackie Biskupski
Rep. Mary Carlson
Rep. Margaret Dayton
Rep. Kory M. Holdaway
Rep. Rebecca D. Lockhart
Rep. Karen W. Morgan
Rep. Jack A. Seitz
Rep. Jordan Tanner
Rep. A. Lamont Tyler
Rep. Richard L. Walsh

Members Excused:

Rep. Carl R. Saunders, House Chair
Sen. Paula F. Julander

Staff Present:

Mr. Mark D. Andrews
Research Analyst
Ms. Janetha W. Hancock
Associate General Counsel
Ms. Catherine J. Dupont
Associate General Counsel
Ms. Jennifer Markham
Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present and a copy of materials distributed in the meeting are on file in the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.

1. Call to Order and Approval of October 18, 2000 Minutes – Chair Montgomery called the meeting to order at 2:18 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.

MOTION: Sen. Allen moved to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2000 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) – Dr. Mark Babitz, AHEC Program Director, distributed a handout titled “Utah Area Health Education Centers Reauthorization Act,” a draft proposal to modify the AHEC statute. Mr. Babitz also provided an overview of the AHEC program. Sen. Knudson provided details about the proposal which would: (1) appropriate \$1.3 million to the University of Utah Health Science Center to fund the Utah Area Health Education Centers program; and (2) identify by region existing and future centers.

MOTION: Rep. Carlson moved to adopt the draft proposal “Utah Area Health Education Centers Reauthorization Act” as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Dayton was absent for the vote.

3. Child Welfare Legislative Oversight Panel Annual Report – Rep. Nora Stephens presented the recommendations of the Child Welfare Legislative Oversight Panel and discussed other issues of concern to the panel (see the handout “Recommendations of the Child Welfare

Legislative Oversight Panel”). She distributed a copy of a letter sent to panel members regarding the future of the panel and noted that the panel’s future is one issue the legislature should consider (see letter dated September 27, 2000).

Rep. Carlson asked for clarification about conflict of interest investigations by third-party contractors. Mr. Mark Andrews explained there would be an investigation if there was an allegation of abuse or neglect involving a foster parent. Ms. Carol Verdoia, Attorney General’s Office, indicated that a statutory change is required to allow for the new way in which the Division of Child and Family Services will conduct these investigations.

Ms. Catherine Dupont presented three bills titled “Mental Health Services for Foster and Adopted Children Task Force,” “Clarification of Time Limits for Reunification Services,” and “Child Welfare Oversight Panel Amendments.” Copies of the draft legislation was provided to the committee.

MOTION: Rep. Tanner moved to adopt draft legislation “Clarification of Time Limits for Reunification Services” as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Walsh was absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Carlson moved to adopt draft legislation “Child Welfare Oversight Panel Amendments” as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Walsh was absent for the vote.

4. Use of Tobacco Settlement Monies - University of Utah Addiction Research and Education Center – Dr. Lorris Betz, Senior Vice-President, University of Utah Health Sciences Center, said tobacco settlement monies appropriated this year by the legislature have been used for the Huntsman Cancer Center, the Addiction Research and Education Center, and a new research building.

Mr. John Mauger, Dean of the College of Pharmacy, University of Utah, distributed a handout titled “Addiction Research and Education Center” and spoke to the committee.

Mr. Louis Callister, Chairman, Edward G. Callister Foundation, discussed his personal involvement in the establishment of the foundation and his participation with the center.

5. Safe Relinquishment of Infants – Rep. Patrice M. Arent presented draft legislation titled “Provision for Legal Relinquishment of a Newborn” (draft 2001FL-0039/007). She distributed several newspaper articles titled, “Safe Abandonment,” “Support Abandoned-Baby Bill,” “Baby-Abandonment Plan OK,” and “Abandonment Bill Protects Babies.”

Ms. Janetha Hancock discussed the details of the bill.

Mr. David Gessel, Utah Hospital and Hospital Systems Association, said that his association has not taken a position on the bill and that the bill would not impose costs on hospitals.

Ms. Becky Oakley, Chair, Board of Child and Family Services, spoke in favor of the bill and described similar programs in other states.

Mr. Christian Anderson, Legislative Chairperson, Utah Adoption Council, and Director, Salt Lake Agency of LDS Family Services, spoke in favor of the bill.

MOTION: Rep. Carlson moved to adopt draft legislation “Provision for Legal Relinquishment of a Newborn” as a committee bill. The motion passed with all members present voting in favor except Rep. Dayton who voted in opposition. Rep. Tyler was absent for the vote.

6. Utah Comprehensive Health Insurance Pool - Report by Board – Mr. Randy Smart, Vice Chair, Utah Comprehensive Health Insurance Pool Board, distributed a handout titled “The HIP Program” and reported on the risk pool.

Rep. Carlson expressed concern about the point system used to determine eligibility for the pool. Mr. Smart discussed eligibility and cost and explained how carriers in the individual insurance market have left the state due to mandated benefits.

7. Lisa P. Settlement Agreement - Update – Ms. Sue Geary, Director, Division of Services for People With Disabilities, said a motion to dismiss the settlement agreement was filed November 2. She said that other parties to the agreement have 60 days to respond.

Rep. Dayton requested that no more reports on the settlement agreement be brought to the committee unless they are in writing. Chair Montgomery suggested this request be made to the standing committee or next year’s interim committee.

8. Council on Sexual Victims and Offenders Report – Rep. Beck presented a report on behalf of the Council on Sexual victims and Offenders and presented draft legislation titled “Sexual violence Prevention and Education.” She also distributed a handout titled “Early Intervention and Care for Victims and Offenders Subcommittee Community Violence Prevention Plan.” Senator Knudson, also a member of the council, addressed the committee.

Ms. Margaret Rose, Health Education Specialist, Utah State Office of Education, Ms. Jamie Roberts, Executive Director, Rape Recovery Center, and Ms. Laurie Updike, Utah Eagle Forum, addressed the committee. Rep. Biskupski requested that information from a Minnesota study mentioned by Ms. Roberts be sent to all committee members. Ms. Roberts said that she could also provide results from a 1997 study of students in the Salt Lake area.

9. Annual Reports - Questions by Committee – There were no questions.

10. Other Business – Chair Montgomery recognized Reps. Mary Carlson, Rep. Jordon Tanner, and Rep. Richard L. Walsh who are leaving the legislature and expressed gratitude for their service on the Health and Human Services Interim Committee. Rep. Carlson thanked Chair Montgomery for his service to the committee.

11. Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Seitz moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:45 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.